

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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2 An apparatus for estimating printer resources compares an
3 amount of printer resources required to print a document to an amount of
4 printer resources available at a printer to determine whether sufficient resources
5 are available to successfully print the document. If insufficient resources are
6 available, the apparatus alerts the user so that the user may replenish the
7 resources prior to printing. When used in a computer network, the apparatus
8 causes the printer to switch from a client print server mode to a direct printing
9 mode causing the printer to stop responding to print commands issued by a
10 print server and to instead respond to print commands issued by a print driver
11 associated with the apparatus.